

CZAR COURTS WAR

Prepares for Hostilities Over the Manchurian Affair.

WE MAY CALL A HALT

Strong Probability of Alliance Between the United States, England and Japan to Oppose Attitude of Russians.

A Washington special says: The state department has received official confirmation from its agents in China of the increase of the Russian garrison in Neu Chwang, Manchuria, and there is reason to believe, if President Roosevelt approves, that it is preparing to take vigorous steps in the matter.

Secretary Hay was in communication Friday with President Roosevelt in California as to the course to pursue.

It is stated that the department has had its patience tried by the course of the events in Manchuria and that it now contemplates a more radical step than any which has heretofore marked the negotiations between the powers on this subject. The proposed step contemplates joint action by Japan, England and the United States.

The preceding negotiations have been hampered by the inability of this government to act jointly with other nations without violating its traditions, but it is now hinted that some plan of co-operation with England and Japan may be devised that will have the effect of convincing the Russian government of the united determination of the three nations to insist upon Russia's evacuation of Manchuria, while not actually committing the United States to a formal alliance.

This program is subject to the approval of the president. If it is not looked upon with favor by him the state department may fall back on its former method of individual representations to Russia and ask another explanation of the happenings in Manchuria.

In such event the Russian answer is already forecast by the officials in Washington. Under the Russian representation to the powers the troops were to have been withdrawn from Neu Chwang just one month ago Friday.

Pledge Violated.

It is understood, as a matter of fact, that a portion of the Russian force was withdrawn from barracks in Neu Chwang to tents outside. It is presumed from Pekin advices that these troops have now returned to the city. However, it is pointed out that Russia employed a saving clause in the promise to withdraw from Manchuria, the language being: "Provided, however, that the action of other powers shall not stand in the way."

Russia, it is understood, now claims that this proviso was violated by Japan when she mobilized her fleet and otherwise showed signs of military preparations which were a menace to Russia.

Accompanying the news of the re-occupation of Neu Chwang comes a warning from other agents in China that the Russian attitude is injuring the chances of the treaty which Mr. Conger and Consul General Goodnow have been negotiating with China involving the opening to American trade of the ports of Taku-Shan and Moukden in Manchuria.

Advices from Pekin, according to dispatches from the Chinese capital, the Russians, it is stated, have reoccupied Neu Chwang with a large force and have also put garrisons in the fort at the mouth of the Liao river. They are further reported to be making extensive warlike preparations.

The news of Russian activity, which comes from a most trustworthy source at Neu Chwang adds that on their return to Neu Chwang the Russian troops brought with them several large guns. A large force has been ordered to reoccupy Tien-Chwang-Tai. The Russians have 14,000 troops between the mouth of the Liao river and Port Arthur.

ALLEGED ASSASSIN TAKEN.

Peace Arrests Man Charged With the Murder of Marcum.

The capture of Curtis Jett, charged with the assassination of J. B. Marcum, in Jackson, Ky., was accomplished without bloodshed at 3 o'clock Sunday morning. He is now in the Clark county jail at Winchester.

Bearing a warrant which had been sworn out by Sam Jett, uncle of the accused, Sheriff McChord and a posse of seven left Winchester at midnight Sunday and took Curtis by surprise at the home of his mother, near Jackson's Ferry.

BALKED AT BOOKER'S BED.

For Refusing to Make It Up, a White Chambermaid Is Fined.

Miss Louise Hadley, a chambermaid at the Hotel English, in Indianapolis, was discharged Thursday evening for refusing to make up a bed occupied by Booker T. Washington the night before. Washington lectured in the city Wednesday night and left Thursday morning.

CUBANS DELAY TREATY.

Probability That Congress Will Adjourn Without Taking Action.

A Havana special says: The disposition to delay action on the pending treaties coupled with the fact that the senate foreign relations committee, still show no indication of reporting the dining and naval treaties agreement made February 15 between President Roosevelt and President Palma, is causing increasing doubt as to whether all or any of the matters will be disposed of before the close of the present session of congress.

NOW AFTER CENTRAL?

Rock Island Reported as Anxious to Further Back Up the 'Frisco Deal.

A message from Des Moines, Iowa, received in Chicago late Monday afternoon announced that the directors of the Rock Island railway had approved the 'Frisco deal. This means that the Rock Island has absorbed the St. Louis and San Francisco railway, a management which permits the Rock Island to reach the southern seaboard at Birmingham. The main terms of the merger are 60 per cent in Rock Island 5 per cent bonds and 65 per cent in common stock for the ordinary shares of the 'Frisco.

It is stated that the Moors are negotiating for the Central railway of Georgia, which connects with the 'Frisco system at Birmingham and runs to Savannah.

President Carroll Wright, of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad Company, gave out the following statement Monday afternoon:

"By the deal the Rock Island secures control of the 'Frisco road. It does not take over the management of the road, the two remaining independent lines operated in an independent manner, but it does secure control of the capital stock. The Rock Island now has two outlets to the coast, one to Galveston and one by way of Sabine Pass."

ENTITLED TO THE PALM.

Mother of Thirty-Four Children Cooks Luncheon for President.

A special from San Jose, Cal., says: President Roosevelt Monday traversed the beautiful Santa Clara valley after crossing the Santa Cruz mountains Monday night slept in his car in San Jose.

The presidential train left Del Monte early in the day. At Pajaro the train stayed a few minutes and Mr. Roosevelt made a brief speech.

The train then proceeded toward Santa Cruz, a seaside resort on the northern shore of Monterey bay. On the way a stop was made at Watsonville, where watermelons grow like weeds. Then a special bore the presidential party to a grove of big trees at Felton, in the foot hills. There an open-air luncheon was served by a score of California's beautiful young women.

Some one told the president that the Spanish beans served at the luncheon had been cooked by Mrs. J. M. Gesetterest, mother of thirty-four children. President Roosevelt laughed heartily and said that Mrs. Gesetterest should be elected president of some society, he did not know exactly what one.

BAPTIST CONVENTION ENDS.

Last Day's Session Devoted to Talks Over the Situation in Cuba.

The fifty-eighth annual convention of the southern Baptists adjourned at Savannah Monday night after the last gathering in its history. All of the sessions were largely attended, as also the many devotional and auxiliary meetings, despite the fact that four days of the session were marked by incessant rain.

Monday was the only bright and fair one of the convention, and many of the delegates and visitors had their first opportunity to observe Savannah with their water-proofs off.

The morning session was marked by the report of Dr. T. T. Eaton as chairman of the committee that investigated the report of the home mission board on Cuba. This report held that the title of the board to Havana church property was absolutely secure. The report also recommends the appointment of a committee to give the full facts of the situation in Havana. The matter brought up a lively and, at times, heated discussion.

Panama Company Is Liberal.

It is currently reported in Panama that the Panama Canal Company has offered the Colombian government \$12,000,000 of the \$40,000,000 the company receives from the United States government for the canal property.

ROADS FORM AN ALLIANCE.

Gould Interests and Seaboard Work Together for Southern Outlet.

It is reported in Chicago that the Gould interests have formed an alliance with those of the Seaboard Air Line by which the former will obtain an outlet to the south Atlantic ports, which they are understood to have been seeking for some time.

Colombian Congress Has Been Called.

Official news has just reached the isthmus from the capital, Bogota, to the effect that the Colombian congress has been called for June 20.

RICH HAUL BY ROBBERS.

Express Agent Forced to Open Safe and Give Up Valuables.

Agent John Peterson, of the United States Express Company, at Britt, Iowa, was compelled by two masked and armed men to open the safe in his office Thursday morning and permit the robbers to take a package containing \$10,000. They also secured other packages of money, and after binding and gagging Peterson, they escaped.

TO RAISE HALF MILLION.

Southern Methodists Want that Sum for John Wesley Bi-Centennial.

To make the bi-centennial of the birth of John Wesley notable in southern Methodism, the board of missions in session at St. Louis decided to undertake the raising of \$500,000 during the year to be used for home and foreign missions. Committees were appointed to suggest plans for securing the amount for each branch of missions.

RUSSIA BACKS DOWN?

Soldiers of Czar are Hastily Withdrawn from Neu Chwang—Action Mystifies China.

Advices from Pekin, China, state that the official at Neu Chwang who sent Friday's news of Russia's alleged action at Neu Chwang and elsewhere in Manchuria telegraphed Saturday that the occupation of the forces at the mouth of the Liao river was temporary and that the Russians have now withdrawn.

Official circles at Pekin are mystified. Their subordinates at Neu Chwang have not reported the reoccupation of that place, hence there is a disposition to question the correctness of the information, although the author of Friday's story is considered to be one of the ablest and best informed foreigners in China.

Deep Concern Felt by Japan.

Mr. Takashira, the Japanese minister at Washington, had a long interview with Secretary Hay at the state department Saturday. He manifested deep concern over the Manchurian situation, but declared that the legation was without official advices, in the absence of which he did not care to discuss the matter. There is an intimation that Japan is disappointed at the character of the support she has received from other powers up to this time in her efforts to stop Russia's alleged aggression. Upon leaving the state department the minister took occasion to single out the following statements printed Saturday morning:

"It is pointed out that Russia employed a saving clause in the promise to withdraw from Manchuria, the language being: 'Provided, however, that the action of other powers shall not stand in the way, and the further statement that 'Russia, it is understood, now contends that this proviso was violated by Japan when she mobilized her fleet and otherwise showed signs of military preparations which were construed as a menace to the Russians.'"

Commenting upon the latter statement, he said:

"Such a contention, if made, is unwarranted. Mr. Takashira added that there has been nothing in the movement of the Japanese navy that could be construed as a menace to Russia."

"The movements of Japan's war ships," said the minister, "are simply incidental to spring maneuvers in the Caribbean last winter."

Courier Cassini, the Russian ambassador at Washington, said in reply to a question Saturday:

"When the whole truth is known it will be found that Russia has not violated a single pledge made to any nation, nor does she intend to do so. Moreover, whatever steps have been taken in Manchuria are only in self defense."

Russia Deprecates Reports.

The foreign office in St. Petersburg strongly deprecates the excitement concerning Manchuria. It believes mischievous makers are responsible for the reports and says the arrival of troops at Neu Chwang was due to the retirement of troops from Jukden province southward instead of northward. The troops depart by sea. The other alleged warlike preparations of Russia are ridiculous.

PAYNE TAKES ANOTHER SCALP.

Postoffice Employee Filed Charges and Then Failed to Sustain Them.

Postmaster General Payne, Saturday, dismissed James Dower, a freeman employed in the postoffice department, as a result of charges that Dower had recently filed against Chief Engineer James O'Donnell and other superior officers. Dower alleged that a ring to govern promotions and other matters existed in the engine room and that improper contracts had been made. The charges were investigated by a postoffice inspector, and the report does not sustain them.

The postmaster general announced Saturday that the action of Dower in making the "frivolous and scandalous charges, giving them publicity and then failing utterly to sustain them is to the detriment of the service and subversive of all discipline. The discharge of Dower is ordered for the good of the service."

MACHEN GETS THE BOUNCE.

Superintendent of Free Delivery System Relieved of Duty.

The investigation of the affairs of the postoffice department at Washington which had been dragging along for two months, took a startling turn late Friday afternoon, when, by order of Postmaster General Payne, August W. Machen, general superintendent of the free system, and one of the most widely known government officials in the United States, was relieved from duty and Postoffice Inspector A. C. Fennes was designated to take charge of that service.

COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT OUT.

Forced to Resign Office on Account of Political Troubles.

It is reported in Panama that President Marroquin, of Colombia, has been compelled to resign office on account of political troubles, and that General Raphael Reyes, second vice president of Colombia, will assume the presidency. Friends of the canal are anxiously awaiting confirmation of this report.

KENTUCKY SUES FOR MILLION.

Allegation Made that Railroad Company Is Due that Sum in Taxes.

Suit for one million dollars taxes against the Southern Pacific Railroad Company was filed in the Jefferson county court at Louisville, Ky., Monday by W. L. Weller, Jr., revenue agent for the state of Kentucky, the petition alleging that corporation had not paid taxes on its personality in five years and that \$1,000,000 was now due the state.

TURN TO NICARAGUA

Colombia May Finally Reject Panama Canal Treaty.

OUTLOOK SEEMS DUBIOUS

In Case Compact Is Turned Down, Negotiations for Nicaragua Route Will Probably Be Reopened.

Dr. Thomas Herran, Colombian charge d'affaires at Washington, said Tuesday that he had not been advised by his government that President Marroquin had resigned, as reported in dispatches from Panama.

If it shall appear shortly that the Colombian government is unwilling to consummate the treaty, or is disposed to defer final action beyond the "reasonable time" mentioned in the Spooner act, the state department will at once endeavor to reopen negotiations with Nicaragua and Costa Rica with the view of securing control of the alternate route for a canal through those countries. In fact, Secretary Hay has already within the week talked with Senor Corea, the Nicaraguan minister, and Senator Calvo, the minister from Costa Rica.

It is said by parties to the negotiations that if they are resumed it will be upon the distinct understanding that the United States government definitely abandon the Panama route. So much ill-feeling was excited in Nicaragua and Costa Rica by the dropping of the Nicaragua route after the protocols had been drawn, looking to its acquisition, that the resident ministers of the two countries in Washington are very loath to take up the subject again without an express agreement that they are not to be used to club the Colombian government into terms.

The capital officials, however, feel very confident that it will not be necessary to resort again to the Nicaragua route, for they believe that the present difficulties in the Panama negotiations are solely attributable to efforts on the part of the Colombians to make the most of the opportunity to induce the Panama Canal Company to divide with it some part of the \$40,000,000 to be received by the company from the United States.

Rejection of Treaty Predicted.

Newspapers just received in Colon from Bogota, the capital, contain articles adverse to the Panama canal treaty and private letters from Bogota of recent date, referring to the growing opposition there to the treaty, affirm that even a certain number of the government officers are wavering in their adherence to the treaty and prophesy its rejection by the Colombian congress in its present form.

Denial Made by Cromwell.

William Nelson Cromwell, general consul of the new Panama Canal company at Washington, makes public a statement regarding current reports affecting the company, including that emanating from Panama, that the company had offered the Colombian government \$12,000,000 of the \$40,000,000 the company is to receive from the United States. The statement is as follows:

"The new Panama Canal Company has not made a proposal to pay \$12,000,000, nor any sum whatever, to the Colombian government, nor to any parties whatsoever, for, or in connection with the ratification of the pending treaty. Statements to the contrary are absolutely without the slightest foundation."

CHARITIES CONFERENCE ENDS.

Great Gathering Adjourns in Atlanta After a Week of Brilliant Work.

The thirtieth and most successful convention in the history of the National Conference of Charities and Correction came to a close in the auditorium of the First Baptist church at Atlanta, Ga., Tuesday night, with the great audience standing in reverent attitude while God's blessing was asked on the work that has been done and on the people who have taken part in the meeting.

FLORIDA MAN ASSASSINATED.

John Howard, Prominent Citizen of Quincy Shot from Ambush.

John T. Howard, a prominent citizen of Quincy, Fla., was shot from ambush and instantly killed Monday night while on his way to his plantation in Liberty county. The news reached Quincy at daybreak Tuesday.

He was riding in his buggy within three miles of his country place when he was shot twice with buckshot. A turpentine man, who chanced to be passing, found him in his buggy dead. The motive for the murder is not known.

SUNDAY PAPERS EXCEPTED.

Florida Legislature Passes Bill in Interest of Publishers.

Under the suspension of rules, the senate bill exempting newspapers from the operation of Sunday laws was passed by the house by a vote of 29 to 22. The bill is intended primarily for the relief of the Pensacola Sunday paper, the state blue laws being enforced in that city.

JETT SEEKS HABEAS CORPUS.

Writ Issued at Lexington, Ky., Against Jailer at Winchester.

Curtis Jett, in jail at Winchester, Ky., on the charge of murdering J. B. Marcum, of Jackson, has filed a petition praying for a writ of habeas corpus.

The jailer against whom the writ is issued had subpoenas drawn for several parties whom it is alleged were either witnesses to the assassination or in positions from which they might have seen the assassin.

Cream of News.

Brief Summary of Most Important Events of Each Day.

An enthusiastic Greater Georgia meeting was held in Columbus Friday night.

Colonel E. C. Machen, projector of the Brunswick and Birmingham railroad, has sold his entire interests in the road to New York bankers.

The Southern Baptist convention met in Savannah Friday morning. Governor Terrell was the chief speaker. The old officers were re-elected.

Miss Claudia Perkins, a student at the Georgia Normal and Industrial college, Milledgeville, has smallpox.

James T. Wills, of Bradford county, Florida, has been appointed judge of the new eighth judicial circuit.

At Grundy, Va., Mrs. Beavers, a young widow, married Miles Charles, indicted for murder, the wedding taking place in jail.

Dr. J. H. Musser, of Philadelphia, was elected president of the American Medical Association, which adjourned Friday after a successful session at New Orleans.

At Los Angeles, President Roosevelt reviewed the annual flower parade Friday.

At the Congress of Mothers, in session at Detroit, Mrs. Kate Waller Barrett made a plea for the elevation of negro mothers.

It is reported that the Goulds have formed an alliance with the Seaboard Air Line so that the former may reach the south Atlantic.

Miss Louise Hurley, chambermaid at an Indianapolis hotel, has been discharged for refusing to make up a bed which had been slept in by Booker T. Washington.

Postmaster General Payne has removed R. W. Machen, general superintendent of the free delivery service, from duty, pending the result of the postoffice investigation.

All the state-owned railroads of Victoria have been tied up by a strike.

Russia is moving troops into Chinese territory. The United States, Great Britain and Japan may form an alliance to resist Russia.

The Augusta Chronicle, oldest paper in Georgia, was sold at public outcry Tuesday. H. H. Cabaniss and Thomas W. Loyless, of Atlanta, were the purchasers. The price paid was \$40,000.

The confederate Battle Abbey is made an assured fact by the appropriation of \$50,000 by the general council of Richmond, Va.

Annual fair and horse show is definitely decided on at meeting of stockholders of the Southern Interstate Fair Association in Atlanta Tuesday. Old officers of the association are re-elected.

The sugar growers' convention met in Macon, Ga., Wednesday.

The American Medical Association opened its session in New Orleans Tuesday.

Judge A. E. Maxwell, who was a member of the confederate senate, died at Chipley, Fla., Tuesday.

The Florida legislature has been asked to pay a fee of \$165,000 for services rendered in getting the Indian war claims fund.

Three cadets have been expelled from the Georgia Military college at Milledgeville for refusing to march behind a negro band.

Postmaster General Payne announces that he proposes to purge the postoffice department of all dishonesty.

Final permission has reached the Italian, British and German embassies at Washington to sign, with Mr. Bowen, the Venezuelan protocol.

The Clyde steamship Saginaw and the Old Dominion steamer Hamilton collided off the Virginia coast early Tuesday morning. The Saginaw was sunk and twenty or more lives were lost.

The Florida house Monday voted to apply a large part of the Indian war claims fund to the payment of the state's public debt.

On his trip through New Mexico President Roosevelt was warmly greeted. At Santa Fe the president acted as godfather at christening of son of a Rough Rider.

The assassination of Attorney Marcum has caused a reign of terror at Jackson, Ky. Men were afraid to enter the court house, and Mrs. Marcum had to care for husband's corpse.

The thirtieth annual session of National Conference of Charities and Corrections opened in Atlanta Wednesday morning.

Major F. H. French, of the Sixteenth United States Infantry, began the inspection of the Georgia state troops at Savannah Monday night.

The inspection of the Alabama National Guard began at Montgomery Monday.

The reunion fund at New Orleans is constantly growing. The veterans will be given a great time.

A large mass meeting for Greater Georgia will be held at Rome on Wednesday, May 12.

The supreme court of Pennsylvania has decided that the Christian Science sect ought not to be protected by the law.

The Chinese minister called on Secretary Hay Monday and discussed the Manchurian question.

Police reserves are called out in New York to quell disorders growing out of the various strikes.

Senator Mark Hanna, of Ohio, thinks it possible that the democrats may nominate Grover Cleveland for a third term.

The United States supreme court has decided that the statute relating to the bribery of persons protected by the fifteenth amendment is unconstitutional.

PRESS NOW MUZZLED.

Governor Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania, Signs the Muchly-Disputed New Libel Act.

Governor Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania, approved the Grady-Salus libel bill Tuesday, and at the same time issued a long statement giving the reasons for his action. The bill, which was in the governor's hands for more than a month, goes into effect immediately, and it repeals all laws or parts of laws inconsistent with the new act.

The governor claims in his statement there is nothing in the terms of the measure which prevents any newspaper from making such comments upon legislative measures or upon the official acts of state, municipal, county, or public officers as are proper information of the public or are in the line of legitimate public discussion. Continuing, he says:

"The bill in its application is not confined to officials, but affects as well the citizen or business man, whose conduct constitutes no part of the right of the public to information. The corporation officer who has been falsely charged with crime; the manufacturer who is falsely accused of being a drunken brawler; the woman whose domestic griefs have been unfeelingly paraded, or whose chastity is improperly suspected; the student who has been falsely accused of murder; the clergyman who has been cruelly maligned; the quiet citizen whose peace of mind has been destroyed by the publication of evil gossip; the merchant whose credit has been affected by groundless rumors; the sufferers from reckless but not necessarily malicious publications, are given the right not to prohibit publication, but to recover damages which they have sustained, provided they prove negligence or lack of care on the part of the publishing newspapers."

"All of these are instances of what has, in fact, recently occurred. A mayor of our city has been called traitor, a senator of the United States has been denounced as a yokel with sodden brain, and within the last quarter of a century two presidents of the United States have been murdered, and in each instance the cause was easily traceable to inflammatory and careless newspaper utterances. A cartoon in a daily journal of May 2 defines the question with entire precision. The ugly little dwarf representing the governor of the commonwealth stands on a crude stool. The stool is subordinate to and placed alongside a huge printing press with wheels as large as those of an ox cart, and all are so arranged as to give the idea that when the press starts the stool and its occupant will be thrown to the ground."

"Put into words, the cartoon asserts to the world that the press is above the law and greater in strength than the government. No self-respecting people will permit such an attitude to be long maintained. In England a century ago the offender would have been drawn and quartered and his head stuck upon a pole without the gates. In America today this is the kind of arrogance which goes before a fall."

The governor also says that many years' experience on the bench has led him to the conclusion that crimes are widely propagated not by the malice but by the recklessness of the press and that in certain classes of cases, among them murder, the accused were at times convicted or acquitted before they reached the court room.

Governor Pennypacker says the reputable press need have no fear of the operation of the law, but that it will have a repressive effect upon the evil tendencies of modern journalism.

RUSSIA GIVES ASSURANCES.

Official Edict Sent Forth That All of Manchuria Has Open Door.

The Russian charge, M. Plancon, at Pekin, China, has given reassurances regarding Manchuria. He has issued an official notice that all Manchuria is open to foreign travel and adds that passports are no longer necessary.

CAROLINA VETERANS GATHER.

State Reunion Held in Columbia With Host of Old Heroes Present.

The old confederates, with a very large following, met in reunion in Columbia, S. C., Tuesday for a three days' meeting.

About 3,000 old soldiers, with their sponsors and maids of honor, were guests of the city. In addition, more than 7,000 visitors were present.

Tuesday night there was speech making in the opera house, into which over 2,000 people were packed. J. R. Smith, of Augusta, was one of the "private soldiers" who delivered an address by invitation.

MILLARD LEE ON TRIAL.

Sanity of Slayer of Miss Suttles Up for Determination.

Millard Lee, slayer of Miss Lilla May Suttles was placed on trial at Atlanta, Ga., Monday morning before Judge L. S. Roan, in the criminal superior court, to determine the question of his sanity. The jury was secured and the hearing of evidence in behalf of the prisoner was soon in progress.

CRUM'S PAY HELD UP.

No Money for Colored Collector Until He Is Confirmed.

The treasury department at Washington has held up the personal account of Dr. W. D. Crum, the colored collector of the port of Charleston, S. C., on the ground that Dr. Crum can not receive compensation until confirmed by the senate.